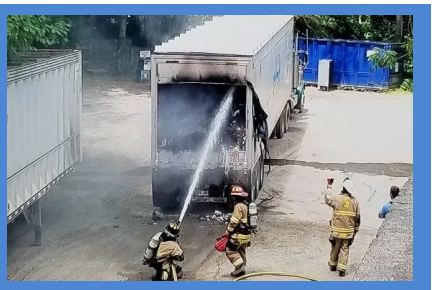
By passing a battery stewardship law, Massachusetts will:

Prevent Fires
Protect First Responders
Save Municipalities Money
Prevent Pollution

Over 50 million batteries are thrown away annually in Massachusetts, posing serious environmental and safety risks. Improperly discarded lithium batteries can catch fire in transit and at waste processing facilities. These fires cause costly damage and endanger workers' safety. When disposed in landfills, batteries can leak hazardous substances into the environment.

Bill H.968, sponsored by Rep. Hogan, will establish a sustainably-funded battery recycling program in Massachusetts.

A BATTERY STEWARDSHIP LAW WILL:



Prevent fires resulting from improper battery handling and storage.

Make battery recycling easy and convenient across the Commonwealth.

Recover valuable materials from batteries to reduce the need for mining.

HOW THE BATTERY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM WORKS

H.968 will create a battery stewardship program that includes all single-use and rechargeable batteries weighing less than 25 lbs. Battery producers pay a fee each year to an independent, non-profit third-party Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) based on the quantity of batteries sold into the state. Funds are used to establish and manage convenient battery collection sites across the state, transport and recycle collected batteries, and provide public education materials on proper battery management. The PRO is overseen by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and annually reports to the Commonwealth to evaluate success and recommend program improvements.

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP IS A PROVEN SOLUTION

A total of fourteen states and Washington, D.C., have enacted battery stewardship laws, including neighboring states of Connecticut, New York, Vermont, and Maine.

SEE REVERSE FOR A LIST OF SUPPORTING MUNICIPALITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN MASSACHUSETTS

MASSPSC

Waneta Trabert
Chair, MA Product Stewardship Council
Director, City of Newton Materials Management
wtrabert@newtonma.gov

For more information about MassPSC, visit: www.massrecycle.org

SUPPORT FOR BATTERY STEWARDSHIP ACROSS MASSACHUSETTS

The following Massachusetts municipalities, businesses, and organizations have signed an endorsement of battery stewardship.

Local Governments

City of Boston
South Shore Recycling Cooperative *(representing 18 municipalities)*
City of Cambridge
City of New Bedford
City of Fall River
City of Newton
City of Fitchburg
Town of Bourne
Town of Nantucket

Non-Government Organizations

Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts
National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA)
Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA)
Rechargeable Battery Association (PRBA)
Sierra Club Massachusetts
Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA)

Businesses

Casella
WM